
The original instrument and the following digest, which constitutes no part of the legislative instrument, were prepared by Camille A. Sebastien.

DIGEST

Present law authorizes the conducting of slot machine gaming at eligible horse racing facilities.

Present law defines an "eligible facility" as no more than one facility in St. Landry Parish, Bossier Parish, and Calcasieu Parish at which the Louisiana State Racing Commission has licensed the conduct or at which the commission has approved the future licensing of the conduct of not less than 80 days within a consecutive 20-week period each year of live horse race meetings.

Proposed law includes a facility in Orleans Parish.

Present law provides that the state treasurer shall, each fiscal year, credit 5% of the state portion of taxable net slot machine proceeds collected from each licensed eligible facility to the following special funds:

- (1) The Bossier Educational Excellence Fund.
- (2) The St. Landry Parish Excellence Fund.
- (3) The Calcasieu Parish Excellence Fund.

Proposed law retains these provisions of present law and adds the Orleans Parish Excellence Fund.

Present law provides that an application may be approved by the board only after the electorate in the parish in which the eligible facility is located or, is proposed to be located, has approved the conduct of slot machine gaming at such facility at an election.

Proposed law retains this provision of present law and further provides that an application for an eligible facility in Orleans Parish may be approved by the board only after the Amended and Renegotiated Casino Operating Contract entered into pursuant to R.S. 27:201 et seq., on October 30, 1998, as amended, effective October 19, 1999, March 29, 2001, and March 31, 2001, has been further amended to provide that the inclusion, licensing, or operation of an eligible facility in Orleans Parish shall not constitute an Exclusivity Violation or prohibited land-based gaming as defined in such contract, as amended, following approval of such amendment by the Joint Legislative Committee on the Budget as required by the provisions of Subsection B of Section 3 of Act No. 1 of the 2001 1st Extraordinary Session of the Legislature.

Proposed law further provides that a license issued by the board to conduct slot machine gaming at an eligible facility in Orleans Parish shall be subject to the following limitations regarding the number of slot machines which may be operated at the eligible facility:

- (1) On or after July 1, 2003, the eligible facility shall be authorized to have a maximum of 300 slot machines at the eligible facility.
- (2) On or after July 1, 2004, the eligible facility shall be authorized to have a maximum of 400 slot machines at the eligible facility.

- (3) On or after July 1, 2005, the eligible facility shall be authorized to have a maximum of 500 slot machines at the eligible facility.
- (4) At any time after July 1, 2005, in the event the gross gaming revenues of the casino gaming operator exceed \$350 million for any preceding 12-month period, the eligible facility shall be authorized to have a maximum of 700 slot machines.

Proposed law provides that if the casino operating contract is terminated and the state of Louisiana does not become a party to another casino operating contract which contains exclusivity provisions that the eligible facility shall not be subject to a limitation on the number of slot machines which may be placed in the designated gaming area.

Proposed law provides that the board is expressly authorized to approve, execute, and implement an amendment to any of the provisions of the Amended and Renegotiated Casino Operating Contract entered into on October 30, 1998, as previously amended effective October 19, 1999, March 29, 2001, and March 31, 2001, consistent with the provisions of proposed law and to issue or modify any regulatory provisions or approvals related thereto, following approval of such amendment by the Joint Legislative Committee on the Budget as required by the provisions of Subsection B of Section 3 of Act No. 1 of the 2001 First Extraordinary Session. Excepts authority from R.S. 27:25 and 26 or any provisions of the APA.

(Amends R.S. 27:353(4) and 361(C); adds R.S. 27:372.1 and 392(B)(3)(d))